

RESOLUTIONS
OF THE
LEGISLATURE OF RHODE ISLAND,

IN FAVOR OF

The prohibition of corporeal punishment and the use of ardent spirits in the navy.

MARCH 1, 1849.

Read, and ordered to be printed.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS.

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, JANUARY SESSION, A. D. 1849.

Whereas it is represented in the memorial of many citizens of this State, and believed by this General Assembly, that evils and abuses exist in the navy of the United States which call loudly for correction; that the use of ardent spirits as a ration lays the foundation of intemperance, and causes most of the misdemeanors that are punished with the lash; and that the continuance of these evils tends to fill our national ships with debased and disorderly men, mostly foreigners, to the exclusion of our own valuable and orderly seamen, who prefer a merchant vessel, with harder toil and less pay, to the national service, where they must live in constant dread of the lash:

Therefore resolved, That our senators and representatives in Congress be requested to use their best influence to have the supply of ardent spirits as rations, and the use of the lash prohibited throughout our navy.

Resolved, That his excellency the governor transmit a copy of these resolutions to our senators and representatives in Congress, with a request that they will present them to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

True copy—Witness:

HENRY BOWEN
Secretary.

